Dale Husband's Intellectual Rants

Expressions of Honorable Skepticism

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Joseph Massad, a left wing extremist and bigoted hatemonger!

Posted on May 4, 2020 by Dale Husband

I thought Wahid Azal and his Bayani cultists were alone in their insane extremism and conspiracy theories, but now I see where Azal actually got some of his absurdities from. Introducing.

https://www.middleeasteye.net/opinion/human-face-white-supremacyand-neoliberalism

Joseph Massad

23 April 2020



The white US liberal intelligentsia has been constantly frustrated since the election of President Donald Trump in 2016.

The more attacks the white and corporate-controlled liberal US media outlets launch against the business-supported Trump, the more popular he becomes.

As white liberals feign concern over Trump's continued dismantlement of the welfare state and restoration of an unapologetic white supremacist system, his many supporters celebrate these achievements and demand more.

What is it that makes Trump so much more persuasive to so many Americans than the liberal media and its pundits?

Uniting against the communist threat

To comprehend how US political culture understands the welfare state and the dismantlement of institutional white supremacy, we must go back and understand how they came about in the first place.

When amid the Great Depression, then US President Franklin Roosevelt opted for the New Deal to transform the country into a welfare state beginning in the 1930s (expanded by his successors through the 1960s), he did so to save US capitalism from the impending communist threat while maintaining white supremacy, and not because of any socialist leanings.

The Russian Revolution was institutionalising itself by the mid-1920s as

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an example for the world to follow, and by the 1930s the US Communist Party's influence on American workers became a veritable threat to the capitalist order.

Indeed, with the major triumph of the Soviet Union over Nazi Germany, the threat of communism had become so great by the end of WWII that the white capitalist powers opted to stop their competition and unite against the communist threat.

Anti-Soviet propaganda began in earnest after the war, as the Americans launched a religious war against the Soviets, condemning them as secular and Godless atheists. Former President Dwight Eisenhower decided to get baptised in office and brought the fanatical reverend Billy Graham in as a spiritual adviser to the White House.

Eisenhower began the tradition of the "National Prayer Breakfast" and started his cabinet meetings with a moment of silent prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was transformed in 1954 by Eisenhower from "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all", to pledging allegiance to one nation "under God".

In 1956, Congress enacted a law signed by Eisenhower that introduced the phrase "In God We Trust" to be printed on American paper currency, replacing the erstwhile phrase "E pluribus unum" (out of many, one), in use since 1776

Two years later, Congress enacted a law introducing the phrase "In God We Trust" as the national motto of the US.

Institutional white supremacy

US liberal journalism, mortgaged to big corporations and their crusade against communism, celebrated these transformations. It was the Eisenhower administration that enlisted religion and invented anti-communist Islamist jihadism as a weapon against Soviet communism and Third World socialism, with Saudi Arabia subcontracted for the role soon after.

As a result of Eisenhower's Protestant Christian institutionalisation, the proportion of religious Americans rose from 49 percent in 1940 to 69 percent in 1960.

These transformations took place when the US South was run by a white supremacist, racial segregationist system, while racist institutions and structures dominated the north and the federal government.

Federal laws created white-only towns called "the suburbs", enforced by racially restrictive "covenants" for home ownership, while the 1944 GI bill made benefits in housing and education available only to white people.

In the context of an institutionally white supremacist US, American journalists and intellectuals sang the glories of US democracy against Godless communism.

But if the welfare state was able to pull the rug out from under the communists, white supremacy made the US vulnerable to anti-racists, communist or otherwise, around the world. This was especially grave for US imperialism, as recently decolonised countries around the world, who had just rid themselves of the European colonial racist yoke, looked to the Soviets as an anti-racist, socialist example with which to ally, rather than the white supremacist US.

Just as the welfare state put a human face on capitalism, there was a need for a human face to be placed on US white supremacy. The 1954 Supreme Court case of *Brown v Board of Education* began the dismantling of the racist apartheid educational system. This was mainly

Man Boobz MARMALADE Millard Fillmore's Bathtub Mysteries of Abdu'l-Baha Nick Josh Karean Not really Alice One Astronomer's Noise Open Mind Overcoming Bias Panda's Thumb. The Panentheistic Spirit Pharyngula, Freethought Blogs Pharyngula, Scienceblogs Playing Chess with Pigeons Policy Lass. The Politics of Selfishness, The Pragmatic Denial, The Progressive Cynic, The RealClimate Redheaded Skeptic, The Rhys Morgan's blog Sagan's Brain Scary Reasoner Science Avenger Science League of America Science Notes Senatus Sensuous Curmudgeon, The Shua Ullah Behai Siona van Dijk's blog Skeptical Teacher, The Skeptico SOB's Grins SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR ALL StargzrBlog Tall Penguin Texas Reason Blog Thoughts ON Truelogic's Weblog Unitarian Universalist Bahai Blog Unreasonable Faith Watching the Deniers Without Apology Wott's Up With That?

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« Apr

done not as a concession to African Americans, but as part of the imperialist strategy to attract Third World countries repulsed by US white supremacy.

Emboldening the new right

But the momentum of the black struggle to end white supremacy within the US could not be stopped, and it proceeded apace in the 1960s, with increasing white liberal concessions from the state and its judicial system – especially as the dismantlement of formal white supremacist structures seemed to beautify the ugly reality of US white supremacy.

US liberal journalism and the liberal white intelligentsia again celebrated the state's achievements – while simultaneously targeting black "radical" civil libertarians with racist propaganda campaigns – as proof of the glories of US democracy against "totalitarian" communism.

This, however, did not appeal to the massive white racist political culture, especially as racist depictions of non-whites in US culture continued on liberal white-dominated television screens and in the culture at large.



Horrified by these concessions that weakened formal white supremacy, the new right, emboldened by white liberal anti-communism, racism, and Eisenhower's institutionalised religion, began to organise in the late 1960s, demanding the reinstatement of white supremacy and the dismantling of the welfare state.

The New Jim Crow system was instituted in the 1970s and has intensified since the 1980s to keep African Americans "in their place", while former President Ronald Reagan and his successors heeded corporate demands to get rid of the Soviets once and for all so that the New Deal could be safely dismantled.

Once the Soviets were gone, presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama intensified the destruction of the welfare state, while putting a lovable human face on US neoliberalism and white supremacy. This is why Obama, especially, was and remains the best thing that ever happened to white liberals.

Racial tokenism

With the fall of the communist threat, the liberal discourse of US democracy deployed since the 1960s lost its efficacy. Liberal notions of "multiculturalism" and "diversity", which had not improved the lives of the majority of blacks, Latinos or Native Americans, whose poverty and oppression persist, as is the case with poor whites (and the majority of the poor in the US are indeed white), were quickly understood as neoliberal and liberal ruses of white supremacist racial tokenism.

The liberal US corporate media never laid blame for the poverty of Americans on the white owners of big business, having itself been part

of the white supremacist corporate attacks on the welfare state since the 1970s as a system of privilege for "lazy" non-white Americans at the expense of "hard-working" white Americans.

As a result, the majority of the white poor became ingrained with the idea that their real and only identity was white, not poor, and that their enemy was not the white owners of the corporations that impoverished them, but the victimised poor non-whites and immigrants.

When Trump arrived on the scene, he did not tell poor white Americans anything that they had not been taught by US culture, media, and evangelical Protestantism since Billy Graham.

Trump's strategy, like that of the white supremacist right of which he is a part, was to tell the white poor that as white people, he was on their side, and that their enemy was not only what remains of the US welfare state, but also (the pretend) US "multicultural democracy" that white liberalism has used to cover up US white supremacy since the 1970s.

Yet what Trump promises poor white Americans who lack white and class privilege – and whom white liberals, such as Hillary Clinton, find "deplorable" – is a restoration of formal white supremacy, which they mistake for an amelioration of their poverty.

Corporate aspirations

As there is no longer a communist threat, and Third World neoliberal elites have been converted since the 1970s into the biggest fans of the US (now that they can be inducted into the one percent through "diversity" and "multiculturalism" programmes), conservative US white supremacists correctly realised that they could come out of the closet and demand the reversal of all the concessions the liberal white supremacists had instituted during the communist threat years.

Trump represents these corporate aspirations, which have been pushed by the US liberal media and culture for decades. Indeed, Trump is a creation of white American liberalism's own trajectory, not a contradiction to it.

This is why when hypocritical US liberal journalists and pundits question Trump during press conferences – most evident during the recent coronavirus crisis – or debate his appeal on liberal television networks, he shows them up easily for the hypocrites they are.

What accounts for this achievement is Trump's sincere commitment to the restoration of an unabashed, unapologetic US white supremacy and runaway capitalism that easily withstands the wishy-washiness of white US liberalism and its continued commitment to white supremacy with a human face, whether a white one or in blackface.

The views expressed in this article belong to the author and do not necessarily reflect the editorial policy of Middle East Eye.

Joseph Massad is Professor of Modern Arab Politics and Intellectual History at Columbia University in New York. He is the author of many books and academic and journalistic articles. His books include Colonial Effects: The Making of National Identity in Jordan, Desiring Arabs, The Persistence of the Palestinian Question: Essays on Zionism and the Palestinians, and most recently Islam in Liberalism. His books and articles have been translated to a dozen languages.

Let's look at his claims in detail.

The more attacks the white and corporate-controlled liberal US media outlets launch against the business-supported Trump, the more popular he becomes......What is it that makes Trump so much more persuasive to so many Americans than the liberal media and its pundits?

is this guy a Republican cultist? Sure sounds like one!

When amid the Great Depression, then US President Franklin Roosevelt opted for the New Deal to transform the country into a welfare state beginning in the 1930s (expanded by his successors through the 1960s), he did so to save US capitalism from the impending communist threat while maintaining white supremacy, and not because of any socialist leanings.

Because in his extremist mind, anything that is not dedicated to overthrowing capitalism must be evil, right? And did FDR say anything about maintaining white supremacy?

Indeed, with the major triumph of the Soviet Union over Nazi Germany, the threat of communism had become so great by the end of WWII that the white capitalist powers opted to stop their competition and unite against the communist threat.

And with good reason: Joseph Stalin actually killed more of his own people than Hitler killed the Jews and other victims during the Holocaust! Other nations did not need to suffer from such things.

Federal laws created white-only towns called "the suburbs", enforced by racially restrictive "covenants" for home ownership, while the 1944 GI bill made benefits in housing and education available only to white people.

What federal laws? I grew up in one of those suburbs, Haltom City, Texas and it was NOT whites only; there were many blacks and Hispanics attending the schools I went to and so white supremacy was not that much of an issue among us.

Just as the welfare state put a human face on capitalism, there was a need for a human face to be placed on US white supremacy. The 1954 Supreme Court case of *Brown v Board of Education* began the dismantling of the racist apartheid educational system. This was mainly done not as a concession to African Americans, but as part of the imperialist strategy to attract Third World countries repulsed by US white supremacy.

Sure, efforts to eliminate racism in American must ALWAYS have an ulterior motive, right? That's straight up anti-American BIGOTRY!

Once the Soviets were gone, presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama intensified the destruction of the welfare state, while putting a lovable human face on US neoliberalism and white supremacy. This is why Obama, especially, was and remains the best thing that ever happened to white liberals.

Uh, wasn't Obama supposed to be a black man, with a black wife and black daughters? And why keep talking about WHITE liberals? Real liberals are of all races. Do you not see anti-white bigotry here?

The liberal US corporate media never laid blame for the poverty of Americans on the white owners of big business, having itself been part of the white supremacist corporate attacks on the welfare state since the 1970s as a system of privilege for "lazy" non-white Americans at the expense of "hard-working" white Americans.

As a result, the majority of the white poor became ingrained with the idea that their real and only identity was white, not poor, and that their enemy was not the white owners of the corporations that impoverished them, but the victimised poor non-whites and immigrants.

Is he referring to FOX News and people like Rush Limbaugh and Ann Coulter? Does this idiot think that EVERYTHING in American politics and the media is LIBERAL?

Yet what Trump promises poor white Americans who lack white and

class privilege – and whom white liberals, such as Hillary Clinton, find "deplorable" – is a restoration of formal white supremacy, which they mistake for an amelioration of their poverty.

This is actually true. That's why Trump wants to end immigration of non-white people and deport millions of non-white people that are already here. But that has nothing to do with anything liberal.

Trump represents these corporate aspirations, which have been pushed by the US liberal media and culture for decades. Indeed, Trump is a creation of white American liberalism's own trajectory, not a contradiction to it.

That is absolute BULLSHIT! You might as well claim the Earth is flat. Trump is actually American CONSERVATISM in its purest form, and thus opposed to liberalism in any form.

This is why when hypocritical US liberal journalists and pundits question Trump during press conferences – most evident during the recent coronavirus crisis – or debate his appeal on liberal television networks, he shows them up easily for the hypocrites they are.

By making idiotic grade school style comments in public?

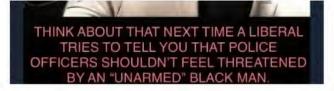
What accounts for this achievement is Trump's sincere commitment to the restoration of an unabashed, unapologetic US white supremacy and runaway capitalism that easily withstands the wishy-washiness of white US liberalism and its continued commitment to white supremacy with a human face, whether a white one or in blackface.

This is what a statement of anti-American hatred looks like. So....what would Joseph Massad recommend we do? Make America a communist state? Does he actually equate capitalism with white supremacy, ignoring that almost anyone, of any race, can become a business owner under capitalism? Didn't communist states in the 20th Century also commit atrocities like the mass extermination of Cambodians under Pol Pot or the aforementioned mass executions of Stalin? Why overlook those things and depict the communists as blameless heroes?

When you literally see no good in capitalism and no good in a country like America, you become the very monster you claim to oppose. You are willing to commit GENOCIDE.

Here's an actual example of an expression of white supremacy so you can see what that looks like, instead of the bullshit that Massad vomited:





So even when a black man does something heroic and saves the lives of strangers, police officers should feel justified in murdering unarmed blacks they happen to come across, right?

How is that any different from what Massad wrote about white, liberal Americans? Is this the madness that motivated the 9-11 terrorists of 2001?

Bigotry is bigotry, period!

Update: The original version of this blog entry had a much harsher title (Joseph Massad is a fuked up lunatic!), which caused Denis Giron to comment: "I'm not familiar with Massad, and I would refrain from using Wahaidesque approaches in blog entries (e.g. F-bombs in place of a more cordial, academic tone)."

A short time later, he said, "Nima claims we have to "own" this and we have "blood" on our hands. No idea what he means, but he is welcome to elaborate here (note: little scared Nima won't let me comment on his threads, but I let him comment on mine)."

I replied: "And Azal won't let anyone comment on his YouTube videos either. But he does feel free to attack me on both my YouTube channel and my blog. Even while whining about being banned from the Exbahai subreddit."

Later, I added: "As Denis correctly noted, I messed up the blog entry's title. I'm usually a bit more professional, but something about that subject just disgusted me beyond description. Time to take out the trash."

Nathan Abookire said, "Actually this idea has merit. It would be funny to see Azal claim victory for the removal"

And he did!

https://wahidazal.blogspot.com/2020/05/dale-husband-defames-joseph-massad.html

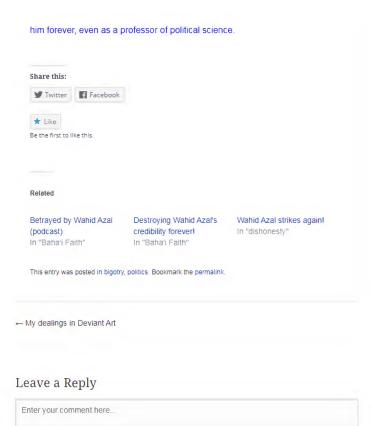
The blog post Dale Husband deleted out of complete embarassment!

Defamation is only an issue if you lie about someone. I merely posted Massad's exact words and responded to them with my own arguments. That's NOT defamation, something Azal himself is notorious for.

And he must suck at mind reading because I was embarrassed about nothing. I merely responded to the constructive criticism of Giron.

I myself am highly critical of capitalism and American politics. I know America has done a lot of dishonorable things during and after the Cold War period. But Massad and Azal's approach is condemning all whites, all Americans, and all capitalists for the crimes of many of them. We are still individuals and the very essence of BIGOTRY is judging ALL members of any group as if they must be the same. As a matter of credibility, we must NEVER do that.

Of course, I expressed NO racism and no rightwing white fragility whatsoever. Azal's saying I did does not magically make what I said wrong. I oppose ALL racism, whatever it comes from and whoever it is aimed at. Massad and Azal just want to make an exception, to bash white people endlessly with terms that if aimed at ANY other race WOULD BE RACIST! The double standards they have are laughable. Just the fact that Massad is fixated on white people as the sole source of political evil in the world instead of tribalism in general discredits



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